

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A pressure sensor comprising:
a sensor unit in which a piezoelectric layer containing a piezoelectric ceramic material is sandwiched by a plurality of electrodes;

a covering layer which covers the sensor unit; and
heat insulating ~~means~~ material made from an expandable synthetic resin which covers the circumference of the covering layer.

Claim 2 (original): A pressure sensor as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the sensor unit is a cable-like sensor comprising a primary electrode which makes up a core unit, a piezoelectric layer which covers the primary electrode and a secondary electrode which covers the outside of the piezoelectric layer.

Claim 3 (original): A pressure sensor as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the sensor unit is a sheet-like sensor which is formed such that a piezoelectric layer is sandwiched by a primary electrode and a secondary electrode.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A pressure sensor as set forth in claim 1, wherein the heat insulating ~~means~~ material is an elastic material having a hollow portion formed therein.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A pressure sensor as set forth in claim 1, wherein the heat insulating ~~means~~ material is made to double as the covering layer.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A pressure sensor as set forth in claim 1, wherein the heat insulating ~~means~~ material comprises a mounting portion for mounting the pressure sensor on an equipment base material.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A pressure sensor fabricating method for fabricating the pressure sensor set forth in claim 1, comprising a step of molding a heat insulating ~~means~~ material on the periphery of the sensor unit through extrusion molding.

Claim 8 (previously presented): An object detecting system comprising the pressure sensor set forth in claim 1 and determination means for determining on the contact of a foreign matter with the pressure sensor based on an output signal of the

pressure sensor, whereby the contact of an object with the equipment is detected.

Claim 9 (previously presented): An object detecting system comprising:

the pressure sensor set forth in claim 1 that is mounted either on an edge of an opening of equipment or on an edge of a closing member which opens and closes the opening; and

determination means for determining on the contact of a foreign matter with the pressure sensor based on an output signal of the pressure sensor, whereby the trapping of a foreign matter between the opening and the closing member is detected.